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DOCUMENTS DIV

Time-Cost Study Authorized On Battleship New Jersey

Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara has authorized an estimated $800,000 appropriation to study the feasibility of taking the battleship USS New Jersey out of mothballs for use as fire support for troops in South Vietnam.

The Secretary of Defense gave the Navy the green light May 31 for a time and money estimate of the work required to recommission the 45,000 ton battleship.

A preliminary inspection of the ship would involve opening up certain covers, handholes and sealed equipment to determine its condition. A Defense Department spokesman said the study does not necessarily imply the battleship will be recommissioned but that the "first look" presupposes an estimate of time and money involved in any possible recommissioning decision.

Officials said that current estimates on recommissioning of the more than 20-year-old ship are about $25 million and that it would take from one to one and a half years before she could reach Southeast Asian waters. The DOD spokesman said that a Navy paper study has shown the battleship was better "cost effectivewise" in certain fire support situations than a cruiser or tactical air support.

Defense Department Publishes 'Standard of Conduct' Reminder

Military and civilian members of the Defense Department are reminded that each individual is responsible for keeping himself informed and complying with "Standard of Conduct" provisions relating to conflict-of-interest.

The reminder is a routine requirement of DOD Directive 5500.7 which basically directs all personnel not to allow themselves to be placed in a position where a conflict-of-interest may occur or might justifiably be suspected.

The directive covers acceptance of favors, gratuities or entertainment that could be interpreted as influencing the strict impartiality of conducting business in the public interest.

It also ranges over a wide area dealing with former personnel, such as soliciting by active duty military personnel, using of military or civilian titles in commercial enterprises and belonging to associations.

THREE-MEDAL WINNER—Army Maj. James B. Fisher is congratulated by Maj. Gen. Conn L. Milburn Jr., Commanding General, Brooke Army Medical Center, Ft. Sam Houston, Tex., after receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross (first Oak Leaf Cluster), the Air Medal (17th Oak Leaf Cluster) with "V" device and the Bronze Star Medal for heroic service in Vietnam.

AF Helicopters Set Records On Transoceanic Flight

The U.S. Air Force is claiming official speed records for helicopter flights from New York to London and New York to Paris. The claim has been submitted to the Federation Aeronautique Internationale.

On June 1, two USAF HH-3E "Sea King" helicopters successfully completed the first non-stop trans-Atlantic helicopter flight. They were refueled in-flight nine times by escorting Military Airlift Command HC-130P tanker-transport aircraft, assigned, as are the helicopters, to the 48th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Sq., Eglin AFB, Fla.

Both helicopters completed the approximately 3,615 nautical mile flight from New York to Paris in 30 hours, 46 minutes, 10 seconds. They departed the Naval Air Station, Brooklyn at 1:05 a.m. (EDT), May 31. The first helicopter arrived at LeBourget Field, Paris, at 7:50:35 a.m. (EDT), June 1. The second landed seven minutes later.

The first helicopter to land, commanded by Maj. Herbert R. Zehnder, is claiming a speed record from New York to Paris. The second helicopter, with Maj. Donald B. Maurras as aircraft commander, is claiming a New York to London record.

Washington Memos

FIRST REST AND Recuperation Center for U.S. officers in Vietnam has been opened at Vung Tau as an in-country spa to give officers a three-day rest. Operated by Saigon Support Command's 53rd General Support Group and Sub-Area Command in Vung Tau, R&R Center is located in Pacific Hotel in coastal resort town on South China Sea. An enlisted men's center is also located in Vung Tau.

NAVY'S SECOND GUIDED missile escort ship, USS Ramsey, was commissioned at Lockheed Shipbuilding and Construction Co., Seattle, Washington, June 3. Designed primarily for antisubmarine warfare, Ramsey will be equipped with antisubmarine rocket and torpedo launchers. Ship will have single 5-inch, .38 cal. gun mount forward and single TARTAR guided missile mount aft.

AIR FORCE ASSISTANT General for Dental Services Brig. Gen. Lee M. Lightner has announced a new color coded dental filling material for rapid and early treatment of tooth decay has been developed. Color code is used to indicate nature of underlying tooth structure for future treatment. Because material can be used as an intermediate treatment for at least a year, it is ideal for use in combat and isolated tour areas and for providing recruit personnel with early treatment immediately following induction.

CORRECTION

DOD CASUALTY STATISTICS memo on U.S. personnel lost in Vietnam which appeared in Commanders Digest of May 31, 1967 should read 10,253 lost their lives through hostile action from Jan. 1, 1961 through May 20, 1967 instead of Jan. 1, 1967 through May 20, 1967.

ROBERT E. JORDAN III has been appointed Army Deputy General Counsel. He previously served as Executive Assistant to Special Assistant, Secretary of the Treasury. Mr. Jordan will share General Counsel's responsibilities as Army's highest civilian legal officer and personal advisor to Army Secretary and Army Secretariat officials.

AIRCRAFT CARRIER John F. Kennedy, christened recently at Newport News, Va., is the third carrier since the end of World War II to bear the name of a man. Its only companions are named for Franklin Delano Roosevelt and James V. Forrestal. Aircraft carriers are normally named for famous battles or great ships of the past. The John F. Kennedy is scheduled for commissioning in FY 1969.

NEW DASA MAILING address is Department of Defense, Defense Atomic Support Agency, Washington, D.C. 20305. Change comes from DASA's two-mile move from the Pentagon to the west side of Fort Myer at the Thomas Bldg. in Arlington (North Court House Road and North 14th St.). Move by some 400 personnel is expected to be completed around June 14th.

DEFENSE INDUSTRY ADVISORY Council will hold its 16th meeting at Pentagon June 9-10. Established in May 1962, council acts as forum for discussions between Secretary of Defense and his assistants and leaders selected from private industry. Agenda for upcoming meeting will include discussions on profits on defense contracts, contractor overhead costs, implementation of defense policy, role of Defense Contract Audit Agency and military export sales.

COAST GUARD HAS announced establishment of Office of Public and International Affairs headed by RAdm. Roderick Y. Edwards. New office, Admiral Edwards said, will provide Coast Guard Commandant with readily available staff to advise him on policy matters involving public, federal, state and local agencies, and international groups.

UNSUNG HEROINE AWARD to honor women members of the Armed Forces or civilian women serving overseas will be announced at sponsoring Veterans of Foreign Wars National Convention Aug. 18-25 at New Orleans, La. Last date for nominations is June 15. They should be submitted to Mrs. Glenn C. White, National President, Ladies Auxiliary VFW, 406 West 34 St., Kansas City, Mo. 64111. Award is for outstanding service performed overseas but can encompass either on or off duty activities or a combination of both.

NEW PORTABLE meterological measuring set, AN/TMQ-22, is undergoing evaluation tests at Army Electronic Proving Ground, Ft. Huachuca, Ariz. Developed by Army's Atmospheric Sciences Laboratory, unit is slightly larger than standard attache case and weighs only 17 pounds. Set provides capabilities for measuring wind velocity and direction, temperature, dew point, barometric pressure, rainfall and snow depth.

ENLISTED PROMOTION QUOTA released by Army to major commands for June is 77,222. Grade breakdown is E-9, 138; E-8, 537; E-7, 1,830; E-6, 7,852; E-5, 16,783; and E-4, 50,082.

SEVENTY-THREE MEMBERS of Naval Academy's graduating class have won scholarships for advanced study. Included among scholarships awarded midshipmen are one Rhodes, eight Fulbright, seven Atomic Energy Commission, two Catholic University, one Johns Hopkins University, one Mershon, three Daniel and Florence Guggenheim Fellowships, one California Institute of Technology, one Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 38 Immediate Masters Program and 10 Burke Program.

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Army Reserve Reorganization Will Leave SRF Unchanged

An Army plan to strengthen reserve forces will leave the strategic 150,000-man Selected Reserve Force (SRF) "substantially unchanged," Army Secretary Stanley R. Resor disclosed during a Pentagon news conference.

Secretary Resor said certain support units will be modernized to conform to changes already made in similar active Army units.

These changes were mentioned by Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara early this year in his annual "posture statement." He said "very substantial progress" had been made in working out the detailed composition of each division and brigade force, "not only in terms of maneuver battalions, but also in terms of various other combat and support units."

SRF organization was begun in late summer 1965. An accelerated training program was started and a year later assessments were made by the Army Chief of Staff and National Guard Bureau Chief Maj. Gen. W. P. Wilson, who described the progress as "fantastic."

In the year's time, some 86 percent of the tested battalions and separate companies had successfully completed the battalion level tests. The objective of providing a strategic force to arrive at a crisis spot within nine weeks of alert had been achieved. This had taken a Guard division five months in the Berlin crisis, and a year or more in past wars.

Under the new plan, all reserve components are scheduled by next summer for 92 percent manning and fully equipped combat readiness and able to deploy within eight weeks of alert.

Service Recruiters to Assist Rejects In Making Civilian Job Contacts

Armed Forces recruiters are now required to urge and to assist those rejected for induction or enlistment in contacting State Employment Service offices to establish civilian careers.

The new DOD policy (Dir. 115.5 of 8 May 1967) places the requirement on the existing 71 Armed Forces Examining and Entrance Stations.

New procedures, involving the use of a two-part form provided by the U.S. Department of Labor with DOD concurrence, stipulate that recruiters must hand "rejectees" Part One of the form that contains information as to whom and what office to contact to obtain civilian employment help. If the "rejectees" voluntarily sign Part II of the form, recruiters will fill out some basic information about the person concerned and mail it for him.

GATLING GUNNERS—Two Air Force F-4C Phantom crews were credited last month with destroying a MIG-17 apiece with the 20mm Gatling gun mounted on their aircraft. The crews are (left) Maj. James A. Hargrove Jr., (kneeling) and his pilot, 1st Lt. Stephen H. Demuth, and (right) Capt. James T. Craig (kneeling) and his pilot, 1st Lt. James T. Talley. The MIG kills were made during aerial combat west of Hanoi.

New AF Electronics Warfare Facility To Expand In-House R&D Capacity

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. McConnell opened a new Electronics Warfare (ELWAR) Facility at the Air Force Avionics Laboratory, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, June 8.

The new facility is designed to expand the Air Force's in-house capacity for research, development and testing of electronics warfare equipment.

With ELWAR, Gen. McConnell explained, the Air Force can determine whether a device or system meets specified requirements and how it will perform in an operational environment. Advanced simulator equipment in the ELWAR facility will reduce to a minimum the expense, time and hazards involved in flight-testing, the general said.

Most of all, the Air Force Chief of Staff said, the ELWAR facility "will help us significantly in obtaining the advanced Electronic Warfare capabilities we need to match the increasingly sophisticated aerospace systems in our operational inventory."

Gen. McConnell said he is confident Air Force scientists and engineers will continue to generate new ideas and spark major advances, and "with the assistance of American science and industry, will assure the preservation of this country's decisive superiority in military technology."

Alaskan Commander Dies in Plane Accident

Air Force Lt. Gen. Glen Robin Birchard, Chief of the Unified Alaskan Command, died June 3 in an aircraft accident on a remote Alaska lake.

The fatal accident occurred when a float plane in which Gen. Birchard was a passenger overturned on takeoff from upper Lake Ugashik on the Alaskan peninsula. Gen. Birchard was on leave at the time.

The general had been Chief of the Alaskan Command since July 28, 1966. He arrived in Alaska from Scott AFB, Ill., where he had served as Vice Commander of the Military Airlift Command.

Gen. Birchard's career is filled with "firsts." During World War II, he piloted a B-24 Liberator bomber on the first air strike against Wake Island, led a flight of B-24s over Tarawa to make planning films before the invasion, and flew in the first night raids to Tokyo. In the Berlin Airlift of 1947-48, he formed and commanded the first C-54 wing to take part in the operation and during the Korean conflict he flew the first aircraft into Kimpo Airfield after the Inchon Bay landings and later participated in the first air drop behind enemy lines.

President Nominates Baird For Navy Under Secretary

President Johnson has nominated Charles F. Baird Under Secretary of the Navy to succeed Robert H. B. Baldwin, who has filled the position since March 9, 1966.

Mr. Baird has been serving as Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Financial Management since November 1965. His successor has not been named.

President Johnson accepted "with regret" the resignation of Secretary Baldwin, effective July 31. The President noted that Mr. Baldwin served as Under Secretary of the Navy "during a crucial period of military buildup in Southeast Asia."

TOP GRADUATE—2nd Lt. Edward J. Semsak, USMC (left), accepts a Marine officer's sword from Lt. Gen. Richard C. Mangrum, Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps. The sword is traditionally given to the class honorman of The Basic School (TBS), at Quantico, Va. Lt. Semsak was honorman of TBC Class 4-67 which graduated May 24.

Larson AFB, Wash., Offers Temporary Family Housing

Larson AFB, Wash., is the latest Department of Defense installation to offer Government quarters as temporary residence for servicemen's families while their sponsors are completing unaccompanied overseas assignments.

At Larson AFB there are 130 four-bedroom and 400 three-bedroom units with rentals equal to the basic quarters allowance. The base is located three miles northwest of Moses Lake, a city of 11,600.

Like Stead AFB, Nev., and Lincoln AFB, Neb., Larson is being managed by a civilian group, although still property of the Air Force. On June 1, the Port of Moses Lake will assume full responsibility for the operation and maintenance of the units.

Details are available from Port of Moses Lake, Housing Division, 419 Loring Drive, Larson AFB, Moses Lake, Wash. 98837.

New Navy Device Detects Contraband In Vietnam "Junk Fleet"

A new electronic device, the Ordnance Locator MK-15, is being used by the Navy to search for contraband hidden aboard the "junk fleet" off the coast of Vietnam.

Developed by the Naval Ordnance Laboratory, White Oaks, Md., the cylindrical device is about the size of a broomstick and contains two detector units, an audio-readout circuit and batteries.

The Naval Research Laboratory conceived the device late in 1965 after sending engineers to Vietnam to study requests from U.S. forces for a hand-held aid in the on-board search of junks. After creating a limited quantity of the locators, NOL's concept won Navy approval and a contract for production of the MK-15 was awarded to Vickers Inc., of St. Louis last year.

Rapid probes of junks with the MK-15 can detect rifles, automatic weapons, grenades and munitions in varied cargoes.

AF Seeks Captains, Majors For Management Engineering

Air Force is seeking captain and major volunteers to fill vacancies in the management engineering field.

Officers will be assigned to the Directorate of Manpower and Organization of a major command headquarters, but will operate at base level on Management Engineering Teams.

Applicants must have a college degree, preferably in industrial engineering, management engineering or business administration with a major in industrial or production management.

Interested officers should contact the nearest Management Engineering Team chief or managing engineering function of the Command Manpower and Organization Directorate for particulars and to arrange an interview.

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